

LONG BRANCH SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

Minutes of the Connection Fee Hearing

July 19, 2017

I & II. Opening and Attendance at Meeting

The Connection Fee Hearing conducted by the Long Branch Sewerage Authority on Wednesday, July 19, 2017 began at 2:47 p.m. pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:18A-8(c).

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. George, in the Meeting Room of the Authority Administrative Building, 150 Joline Avenue, Long Branch, New Jersey, attended by Mr. Booth, Mr. Brown and Mr. Mazza. Mr. Blaisdell attended via telephonic communication.

In addition to the Members of the Authority hereinabove stated there were present the following attaches: Laurie A. Hartnett, Executive Director; David Kaplan, CPA Accountant of Authority; John Bonello, Esq., Authority Counsel; John Van Dorpe and Susan Brasefield, Authority Engineers; Thomas Roguski, Staff Engineer; Nicole Woods, Secretary; and Certified Court Reporter, Lisa Norman.

III. Announcement Pursuant to New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act

Adequate Notice pursuant to the Statutes of the Open Public Meetings Act and other applicable Statutes has been given and this meeting has been properly advertised in the *Link* as a "legal" advertisement on June 29, 2017, and in the *Asbury Park Press* as a "legal" advertisement on June 28, 2017, and duplicates have been forwarded to the Clerks of the City of Long Branch, the Borough of West Long Branch and the Borough of Monmouth Beach on June 23, 2017, for filing in their respective offices and for posting in a public place in each such Municipality.

IV. Connection Fee Report.

Mr. Bonello entered into evidence Exhibit A1, letter from Auditor, Mr. David Kaplan, setting connection fee at \$4,205.00 per unit; Exhibit A2, copy of a Notice of Public Hearing; Exhibit A3, Affidavit of Publication of Notice of this Hearing in the *Asbury Park Press*; Exhibit A4, Affidavit of Publication of Notice of this Hearing in the *Link*; Exhibit A5, Copies of letters sent to the Clerks of the municipalities serviced by the Long Branch Sewerage Authority.

The Authority Counsel would introduce the only witness, Mr. David Kaplan, Authority Accountant, and would conduct the direct examination of said witness following which there could be cross-examination by the Authority Members and members of the Public.

Said rules were adopted whereupon David Kaplan was sworn in by Ms. Norman. Mr. Bonello questioned Mr. Kaplan as to his qualifications and licensing. Mr. Kaplan then proceeded to testify that he had prepared a report in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40:14A-8. The witness testified that based upon certain computations, he was of the opinion that there should be a decrease in the connection fee from the amount of \$4,526.00 to \$4,205.00 for all residential connections and from \$23.10 to \$21.52 per gallon per day for all non-residential connections. Detailed testimony was given by the witness and recorded by Ms. Norman. The witness specifically testified that the computation was made in accordance with the statutory prescription.

V. Public Participation.

Mr. Bonello stated that no members of the public were present.

On Motion by Mr. George, seconded by Mr. Brown, and passed by the affirmative vote of all members present, no nays, no absent, no abstain; this item of the agenda was closed.

VI. Action on Connection Fee

In regard to the final approval of the connection fee, the following Resolution was presented by Mr. Bonello.

RESOLUTION

Mr. Booth offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption; seconded by Mr. Brown,

WHEREAS, the Long Branch Sewerage Authority has authorized the introduction of a Revised Rate Resolution, and

WHEREAS, Notice of Public Hearing of the Revised Rate Resolution has been duly advertised and existing customers of the Authority, as well as the City of Long Branch and other municipalities, with customers using the Long Branch Sewerage Authority, have been notified as to the Revised Rate Resolution and have received a copy of same, and

WHEREAS, the Long Branch Sewerage Authority has determined that the Revised Rate Resolution must be adopted to meet its financial needs, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Long Branch Sewerage Authority that the Revised Rate Resolution be approved, which will decrease the initial connection fee from \$4,526.00 to \$4,205.00 per unit for all residential connectors and from \$23.10 to \$21.52 per gallon, per day of estimated flow for all non-residential connections, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Reactivation Fee will be set at \$131.00 per unit.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a fifty percent discount be granted on the prevailing connection fees to all City of Long Branch Public Housing Authority connection fees and to all the connection fees due from all non-profit organizations building affordable housing projects within the City of Long Branch and the same is hereby adopted effective immediately.

ROLL CALL:

Mr. George - AYE
Mr. Booth - AYE
Mr. Brown - AYE
Mr. Mazza - AYE
Mr. Blaisdell - AYE

Date: July 19, 2017
Exhibits: A1-A5

VII. Adjournment.

On Motion by Mr. Booth, seconded by Mr. George, and passed by the affirmative vote of all members present, no nays, no absent, no abstain; the Public Hearing on the Connection Fee was closed at 2:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James Mazza, Secretary

Laurie A. Hartnett, Executive Director